

## Amendments to the Claims

This list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

### Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A bearing arrangement for absorbing axial loads, comprising:  
a plurality of axial roller bearings arranged one behind the other; ~~and each having~~  
~~a housing plate plates; and (1.1, 1.2, 1.3), a shaft plate plates, (2.1, 2.2) and the axial~~  
~~roller bearings forming~~ rolling body sets (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4) arranged between ~~these~~  
~~runner plates the housing plates and the shaft plates, the shaft plates (2.1, 2.2) and the~~  
housing plates (1.1, 1.2, 1.3) being supported axially by means of spacer rings (5.1,  
4.1, 4.2) arranged between ~~them in each case each of the shaft plates and each of the~~  
~~housing plates,~~  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the housing plates (1.1, 1.2, 1.3) and the shaft plates  
(2.1, 2.2) have a constant axial thickness over their entire radial extent in ~~the a~~ region  
of the rolling body sets (3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4), and at least one of the shaft plates (2.1,  
2.2) is provided at its ~~has an annular clearance at an~~ inner circumference ~~with an~~  
annular clearance (6) which is inwardly open in the ~~a~~ radial direction.
  
2. (Canceled)
  
3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The bearing arrangement as claimed in of claim 1, characterized in that wherin a securing ring (7) is provided at least in one of fitted in the clearances (6) clearance.
5. (Currently Amended) The bearing arrangement as claimed in of claim 4, characterized in that wherin the securing ring (7) is composed of an elastic material.
6. (Currently Amended) The bearing arrangement as claimed in of claim 4, characterized in that wherin the securing ring (7) has a slot (7.1).